



**No watering between 9 and 5. . .  
and your lawn will still thrive!**

Did you know that Miami-Dade County has a year-round landscape irrigation ordinance, making it unlawful to water lawns between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m.\*? And did you know that Miami-Dade County is currently under a Water Shortage Warning?

The Miami-Dade Water & Sewer Department and its regional partner, the South Florida Water Management District, are asking you to adhere to the county-enforced landscape irrigation ordinance and to voluntarily limit water use. Why?

**The first 11 months of 2006 were the driest since 1938, so the current dry season is likely to have a greater impact on our existing water supply. In some areas of South Florida, water shortages have already occurred!**

With rainfall levels about a foot below average this year - the region's primary source for replenishing our limited freshwater water supply - **water conservation** is critical now during the dry season (November through May) to protect our water resources and help stave off mandatory or more severe water ordinances or restrictions later.

**The easiest way to start saving water is to simply turn off your sprinklers and operate your system on manual!**

### How to "drought-proof" your lawn:

- Turn off sprinklers between 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily (*Miami-Dade County landscape irrigation ordinance*)
- Water early in the day - best before sunrise so less water evaporates
- Water only when your lawn shows signs of wilt - don't water right before, during or after rain
- Keep mower blades sharp and raise the blade
- Don't fertilize until summer rains

### Other easy ways to save water:

- Don't use the hose to clean driveways and sidewalks - use a broom
- Turn off the faucet when brushing your teeth
- Take shorter showers
- Install high efficiency toilets (HET)/showerheads
- Don't use toilet as a waste basket
- Wash full laundry and dish loads
- Repair leaky fixtures

**Florida's Water**  
It's Worth Saving

**In Miami-Dade County, each person uses an average of 158 gallons of water every day! About half of that water is used outside the home, often wastefully, over-watering lawns and gardens.**

### Year-round water conservation benefits:

- Reduces wasteful habits
- Smart thing to do and saves money, too
- Helps stretch water supplies through drier months
- Helps avoid water shortage mandatory restrictions

There are many more ways you can conserve water by making small changes in the way you use water.

For more water conservation information:  
South Florida Water Management District  
**Water Conservation Hotline (800) 662-8876**  
[www.sfwmd.gov/conserv](http://www.sfwmd.gov/conserv)

Miami-Dade Water & Sewer Department  
**Water Conservation Hotline (305) 448-SAVE**  
[www.miamidade.gov/wasd/](http://www.miamidade.gov/wasd/)

\*Code of Miami Dade County, Sec. 32-8.2. Permanent Landscape Irrigation Ordinance; exceptions apply.

**[sfwmd.gov](http://sfwmd.gov)**

